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Cathepsin cysteine protease inhibitors and their use.

The present invention relates to compounds and compositions for treating diseases associated with cysteine protease activity. The compounds are reversible inhibitors of cysteine proteases S, K, F, L and B. Of particular interest are diseases associated with Cathepsin S. In addition this invention also discloses processes for the preparation of such inhibitors.

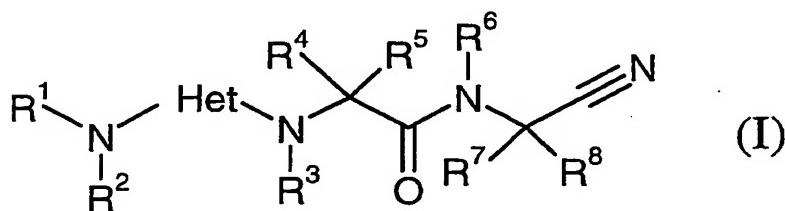
BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Cathepsin S is a member of the papain superfamily of cysteine proteases which also encompasses Cathepsins B, H, L, O and K. Cathepsin S plays a key role in the processing of invariant chain in MHC class II complexes allowing the complex to associate with antigenic peptides. MHC class II complexes are then transported to the surface of the cell for presentation to effector cells such as T cells. The process of antigen presentation is a fundamental step in initiation of the immune response. In this respect inhibitors of cathepsin S could be useful agents in the treatment of inflammation and immune disorders such as, but not limited to, asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis and Crohn's disease. Cathepsin S has also been implicated in a variety of other diseases involving extracellular proteolysis such as the development of emphysema in COPD through degradation of elastin and in Alzheimers disease.

Other Cathepsins notably K and L have been shown to degrade bone collagen and other bone matrix proteins. Inhibitors of these cysteine proteases would be expected to be useful in the treatment of diseases involving bone resorption such as osteoporosis.

25

The present invention therefore provides a compound of formula (I)



R^1 is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl

R^2 is independently aryl, heteroaryl or a group C₁₋₆alkylR⁹, CO(C₁₋₆alkyl)R⁹ or SO₂(C₁₋₆alkyl)R⁹; where R⁹ is aryl or heteroaryl

- 5 or R¹ and R² together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 4 to 7-membered saturated ring optionally containing a carbonyl group, O, S or N atom and optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆ alkyl, amino, hydroxy, CO₂C₁₋₆ alkyl, COC₁₋₆ alkyl, halogen, C₁₋₆ alkylhydroxy, NR¹⁰R¹¹ where R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are independently hydrogen,
- 10 C₁₋₆ alkyl or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered saturated ring optionally containing a further O, S or NR¹ group, C₁₋₆ alkylNR¹²R¹³ where R¹² and R¹³ are independently hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl, CONR¹²R¹³, or optionally substituted by C₁₋₆alkylR⁹, aryl, phenoxy, COaryl, COheteroaryl or a heteroaryl group, the latter six groups being optionally substituted by halogen, amino, hydroxy,
- 15 cyano, nitro, carboxy, CONR¹²R¹³, SO₂NR¹²R¹³, SO₂R¹², trifluoromethyl, NHSO₂R¹², NHCOR¹², ethylenedioxy, methylenedioxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl NR¹⁰R¹¹, SR¹² or NR¹⁰R¹¹;

- 20 Het is a heteroaryl ring chosen from pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, pyridazine or triazine and optionally substituted by halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, carboxy, CONR¹²R¹³, SO₂NR¹²R¹³, SO₂R¹², trifluoromethyl, NHSO₂R¹², NHCOR¹², C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, SR¹² or NR¹⁰R¹¹;

R^3 is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

- 25 R^4 is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl, arylC₁₋₅alkyl or heteroarylC₁₋₅alkyl, the latter three groups being optionally substituted by one or more halogen, amino, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, SR¹² or NR¹⁰R¹¹;

- 30 R^5 is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

R^6 is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

R^7 is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

R^8 is independently hydrogen, aryl, heteroaryl or C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with one or more aryl, heteroaryl, halogen, amino, hydroxy, carboxy, $CONR^{12}R^{13}$, $SO_2NR^{12}R^{13}$, SO_2R^{12} , $NHSO_2R^{12}$, $NHCOR^{12}$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, SR^{12} or $NR^{10}R^{11}$;

5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Aryl groups include phenyl and naphthyl. Heteroaryl groups include 5- or 6-membered, 5,6- or 6,6-fused heterocyclic rings containing one or more heteroatoms selected from N, S or O. Examples include pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrazole, imidazolyl, 10 furyl, thienyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, benzimidazolyl, benzofuryl, benzothienyl and indolyl.

Aryl and heteroaryl groups can be optionally substituted by one or more of the following groups; halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, carboxy, $CONR^{12}R^{13}$, $SO_2NR^{12}R^{13}$, 15 SO_2R^{12} , trifluoromethyl, $NHSO_2R^{12}$, $NHCOR^{12}$, ethylenedioxy, methylenedioxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl $NR^{10}R^{11}$, SR^{12} or $NR^{10}R^{11}$.

Certain compounds of formula (I) are capable of existing in stereoisomeric forms. It will be understood that the invention encompasses all geometric and optical isomers of the 20 compounds of formula (I) and mixtures thereof including racemates. Tautomers and mixtures thereof also form an aspect of the present invention.

Preferably R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl, more preferably methyl and R^2 is CH_2R^9 or $CH_2CH_2R^9$ where R^9 is phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered aromatic ring containing one or two 25 heteroatoms and optionally substituted by C_{1-6} alkyl. More preferably R^2 is CH_2R^9 or $CH_2CH_2R^9$ where R^9 is phenyl, pyridyl or oxazole substituted by methyl.

Alternatively R^1 and R^2 form a piperidine, piperazine, pyrrolidine, morpholine, or thiomorpholine ring optionally substituted by CH_2OH , CH_2CH_2OH , hydroxy, $CONH_2$, 30 phenyl, phenoxy, $C(O)-furyl$, the latter three groups being optionally substituted by halogen, in particular chloro.

Preferably Het is pyrimidine ring.

35 Preferably R^3 is hydrogen.

Preferably R⁴ is hydrogen.

Preferably R⁵ is C₁₋₆ alkyl, more preferably iso-butyl.

5 Preferably R⁶ is hydrogen.

Preferably R⁷ and R⁸ are both hydrogen.

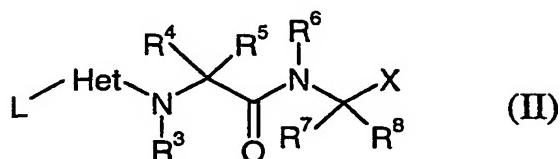
Preferred compounds of the invention include:

- 10 N~1~~[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N~2~~(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N~2~~(2-piperazin-1-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide,
15 N-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N-(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-phenylalaninamide
N~1~~[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-cyclohexyl-N~2~~(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-alaninamide
N-[2-(Benzylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide
20 N-{2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide
N-{2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide
N~2~~[2-(Benzylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide
25 N~2~~{2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide
N~2~~{2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~(4-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-2-yl)-L-leucinamide
30 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-hydroxy-4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[methyl(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
35 N~2~~{2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide

N~2~~{2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide,
N~2~~{2-[4-(5-Chloropyridin-2-yl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide,
5 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[methyl(thien-3-ylmethyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~(2-thiomorpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-phenylpiperazin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[2-(hydroxymethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
10 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[(2R)-2-(hydroxymethyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[4-(2-furoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-
15 N~2~~{2-[3-(Aminocarbonyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[methyl(2-pyridin-2-ylethyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
20 N~2~~[2-(4-Benzylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-pyridin-2-ylpiperazin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
25 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
N~2~~{2-[4-(3-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-phenoxy)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
30 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(3-phenylpyrrolidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-{methyl[(3-methylisoxazol-5-yl)methyl]amino}pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

35 The present invention further provides a process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) which comprises

(i) reaction of a compound of general formula (II)



5

wherein L represents a leaving group (e.g. halide, sulphide, sulfoxide or sulphone group), preferably the sulphide is oxidised to a sulfoxide or sulphone group before displacement. An oxidising agent such as a peracid may be used, for example meta-chloroperbenzoic acid in dichloromethane at room temperature.

L may be displaced by NR¹R² respectively where R¹ and R² are defined in formula (I). The reaction may be performed in an inert solvent for example dioxane, N,N-dimethylformamide at ambient temperature or with heating, usually with a base present for example N,N-diisopropylethylamine.

15

X may be CN, or a group that can be readily converted into a nitrile, for example C1-6alkoxycarbonyl, CONH₂ or CO₂H.

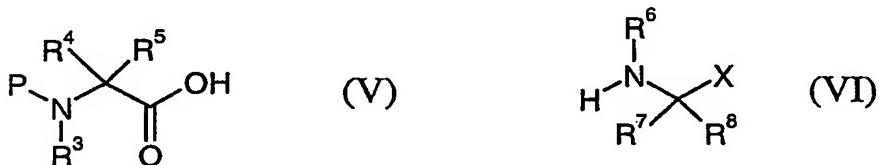


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Compounds of formula (II) may be prepared from compounds of formula (III) by displacement of a leaving group L¹ from compounds of formula (IV).

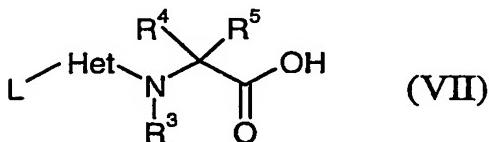
25 Wherein L¹ represents a leaving group (e.g. halide, sulphide, sulfoxide or sulphone group), preferably the sulphide is oxidised to a sulphoxide or sulphone group before displacement. An oxidising agent such as a peracid may be used, for example meta-chloroperbenzoic acid in dichloromethane at room temperature. The reaction may be performed in an inert solvent for example dioxane, N,N-dimethylformamide at ambient temperature or with heating, usually with a base present for example N,N-diisopropylethylamine.

Compounds of formula (III) may be prepared from the reaction of compounds of formula (V) with compounds of formula (VI) using an appropriate coupling agent, for example N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N'-ethylcarbodiimide, carbonyl diimidazole. Alternatively the acid may be activated by formation of the acid chloride using for example, oxalyl chloride.



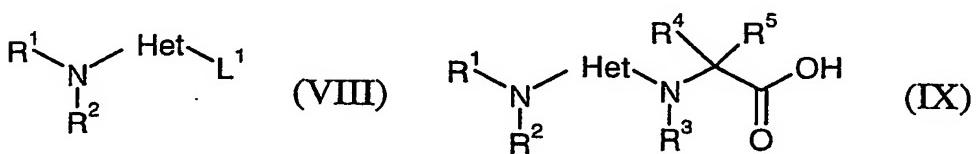
P is a nitrogen protecting group for example tert-butylcarbamate, benzyl carbamate, benzyl.

Compound of general formula (II) may also be prepared from the reaction of compounds of formula (VII) with compounds of formula (VI) using an appropriate coupling agent , for example N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N'-ethylcarbodiimide, carbonyl diimidazole. Alternatively the acid may be activated by formation of the acid chloride using for example, oxalyl chloride.



20

(ii) reaction of a compound of general formula (VIII) with compounds of formula (III) or reaction of a compound of general formula (IX) with a compound of general formula (VI).



According to a further feature of the invention there is provided a compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use as a therapeutic agent.

According to a further feature of the present invention there is provided a method for
5 producing inhibition of a cysteine protease in a warm blooded animal, such as man, in need
of such treatment, which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of a
compound of the present invention, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In
particular the compounds of the invention are useful in the treatment of inflammation and
immune disorders such as, but not limited to, asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, COPD, multiple
10 sclerosis, Crohn's disease, Alzheimers and pain, such as neuropathic pain. Preferably the
compounds of the invention are used to treat pain, especially neuropathic pain.

The invention also provides a compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically
acceptable salt thereof, for use as a medicament; and the use of a compound of the formula
15 (I) of the present invention, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the
manufacture of a medicament for use in the inhibition of a cysteine protease in a warm
blooded animal, such as man.

In particular the invention provides the use of a compound of the formula (I) of the present
20 invention, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a
medicament for use in the inhibition of Cathepsin S in a warm blooded animal, such as
man. In order to use a compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable
salt thereof for the therapeutic treatment of mammals including humans, in particular in the
inhibition of a cysteine protease, it is normally formulated in accordance with standard
25 pharmaceutical practice as a pharmaceutical composition.

Therefore in another aspect the present invention provides a pharmaceutical composition
which comprises a compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt
thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

30 The pharmaceutical compositions of this invention may be administered in standard
manner for the disease condition that it is desired to treat, for example by oral, rectal or
parenteral administration. For these purposes the compounds of this invention may be
formulated by means known in the art into the form of, for example, tablets, capsules,
35 aqueous or oily solutions or suspensions, (lipid) emulsions, dispersible powders,

suppositories, ointments, creams, drops and sterile injectable aqueous or oily solutions or suspensions.

A suitable pharmaceutical composition of this invention is one suitable for oral
5 administration in unit dosage form, for example a tablet or capsule which contains between
100 mg and 1 g of the compound of this invention.

In another aspect a pharmaceutical composition of the invention is one suitable for
intravenous, subcutaneous or intramuscular injection.

10 Each patient may receive, for example, an intravenous, subcutaneous or intramuscular dose
of 1 mgkg⁻¹ to 100 mgkg⁻¹ of the compound, preferably in the range of 5 mgkg⁻¹ to 20
mgkg⁻¹ of this invention, the composition being administered 1 to 4 times per day. The
intravenous, subcutaneous and intramuscular dose may be given by means of a bolus
15 injection. Alternatively the intravenous dose may be given by continuous infusion over a
period of time. Alternatively each patient will receive a daily oral dose which is
approximately equivalent to the daily parenteral dose, the composition being administered
1 to 4 times per day.

20 The following illustrate representative pharmaceutical dosage forms containing the
compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof (hereafter
compound X), for therapeutic or prophylactic use in humans:

(a)

<u>Tablet I</u>	<u>mg/tablet</u>
Compound X.	100
Lactose Ph.Eur.	179
Croscarmellose sodium	12.0
Polyvinylpyrrolidone	6
Magnesium stearate	3.0

(b)

<u>Tablet II</u>	<u>mg/tablet</u>
Compound X	50
Lactose Ph.Eur.	229
Croscarmellose sodium	12.0
Polyvinylpyrrolidone	6
Magnesium stearate	3.0

5 (c)

<u>Tablet III</u>	<u>mg/tablet</u>
Compound X	1.0
Lactose Ph.Eur.	92
Croscarmellose sodium	4.0
Polyvinylpyrrolidone	2.0
Magnesium stearate	1.0

(d)

<u>Capsule</u>	<u>mg/capsule</u>
Compound X	10
Lactose Ph.Eur.	389
Croscarmellose sodium	100
Magnesium stearate	1.

(e)

<u>Injection I</u>	(50 mg/ml)
Compound X	5.0% w/v
Isotonic aqueous solution	to 100%

Buffers, pharmaceutically-acceptable cosolvents such as polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, glycerol or ethanol or complexing agents such as hydroxy-propyl β cyclodextrin may be used to aid formulation.

5 Note

The above formulations may be obtained by conventional procedures well known in the pharmaceutical art. The tablets (a)-(c) may be enteric coated by conventional means, for example to provide a coating of cellulose acetate phthalate.

10 The following examples illustrate the invention.

Example 1

N~1~-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N~2~- (2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide

(i) N~2~- (tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-N~1~- [cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-L-leucinamide
1-(3-Dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (2.9g) and 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (2.0g) were added to a solution of 2-methoxyphenylamino acetonitrile (2.0g) and N-tert-butoxycarbonyl L-leucine (2.5g) in N,N-dimethylformamide (20ml) at room temperature followed by N,N-diisopropylethylamine (5.3ml) and stirred at room temperature overnight. The mixture was diluted with water, extracted into ethyl acetate and dried ($MgSO_4$). The solvent was removed under vacuum to leave an oil which was subjected to column chromatography on silica eluting with isohexane/ethyl acetate 2:1 to give a colourless oil (3.7g).

15

MS: APCI(+ve) 249(M-Boc-CN+1)

(ii) N~1~-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-L-leucinamide

The product from step (i) (3.70g) in formic acid (40ml) was stirred for 90min at room temperature then the solvent was removed under vacuum to give a yellow oil (2.7g).

MS: APCI(+ve) 276(M-Boc+1)

(iii) N~1~-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N~2~- (2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide

25

A solution of the product from step (ii) (2.7g) and N,N-diisopropylethylamine (1.7ml) in tetrahydrofuran (40ml) was added dropwise to a solution of 2,4-difluoropyrimidine (1.15g) in tetrahydrofuran (40ml) and N,N-diisopropylethylamine (1.7ml). After stirring at room temperature overnight the solvent was removed under vacuum to yield a crude oil which was subjected to column chromatography on silica eluting with dichloromethane/ethyl acetate 2:1 to give a colourless oil (1.50g).

30

MS: APCI(+ve) 372(M+1)

35

(iv) N~1~-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N~2~- (2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide

The product from step (iii) (0.5g), morpholine (0.12ml) and N,N-diisopropylethylamine (0.24ml) in tetrahydrofuran (20ml) was stirred at room temperature overnight. The solvent was removed under vacuum to yield a crude oil which was subjected to column chromatography on silica eluting with ethyl acetate/isohexane 3:1 to give a white solid (0.4g).

5 MS: APCI(+ve) 439(M+1)

1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 9.40 (1H, m), 9.08 (1H, m), 7.78-7.12 (5H, m), 6.10-6.08 (1H, d), 5.80 (1H, m), 4.60-4.40 (1H, m), 3.84-3.51 (11H, m), 1.80-1.20(3H, m), 0.96-0.84 (6H, m).

10 Example 2

N~1-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N~2-(2-piperazin-1-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide, trifluoroacetate salt

15 The title compound was prepared according to the procedure in example 1 step (iv) using piperazine.

20 MS: APCI(+ve) 438(M+1)

1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.83-8.81 (2H, m), 7.79-6.97 (5H, m), 6.09-6.02 (2H, m), 4.40 (1H, m), 3.85 (7H, bm); 3.13-3.05 (4H, m), 1.68-1.49 (3H, m), 0.94-0.84 (6H, m).

25 Example 3

N-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N-(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-phenylalaninamide

(i) **N-(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-N-[cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-L-phenylalaninamide**

30 The sub-title compound was prepared from N-butoxycarbonyl-L-phenylalanine (1.32g) by the method of example 1 step (i). Yield 2.05g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 310 (M-Boc+1)

(ii) **N-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N-(2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-phenylalaninamide**

The sub-title compound was prepared from the product of step (i) (2.05g) by the method of example 1 steps (ii) and (iii). Yield 0.57g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 406 (M+1)

5

(iii) N-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N-(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-phenylalaninamide

The title compound was prepared from the product of step (ii)(0.25g) by the method of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.078g.

10 MS: APCI(+ve) 473 (M+1)

NMR: δ (DMSO) 9.29 and 9.15 (1H, 2xd), 7.73 and 7.69 (1H, 2xd), 7.45-7.40 (2H,m), 7.33-7.17 (6H,m), 7.11 (1H,m), 7.00 (1H,m), 6.08 (1H,dd), 5.88 and 5.85 (1H,2xd), 4.64 (1H, brs), 3.83 and 3.80 (3H, 2xs), 3.58 (4H,m), 3.47 (4H,m), 3.05-2.82 (2H,m).

15 **Example 4**

N~1~-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-cyclohexyl-N~2~~(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-alaninamide

20 **(i) N-(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-N-[cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide**

The sub-title compound was prepared from N-butoxycarbonyl-beta-cyclohexyl-L-alanine (1.36g) by the method of example 1 step (i). Yield 1.99g. Used directly in the next step.

25 **(ii) N~1~-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-cyclohexyl-N~2~~(2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-alaninamide**

The sub-title compound was prepared from the product of step (i) (1.99g) by the method of example 1 steps (ii) and (iii). Yield 0.12g.

30 MS: APCI(+ve) 412 (M+1)

35 **(iii) N~1~-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-cyclohexyl-N~2~~(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-alaninamide**

The title compound was prepared from the product of step (ii) (0.12g) by the method of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.087g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 479 (M+1)

NMR: δ (DMSO) 9.18 and 9.06 (1H,2xd), 7.76 and 7.72 (1H,2xd), 7.49-7.37 (2H,m), 7.24 (1H,brs), 7.11 (1H,d), 7.02 (1H,t), 6.09 (1H,m), 5.91 and 5.88 (1H,2xd), 4.46 and 4.36 (1H,2xbrs,), 3.82 and 3.80 (3H,2xs), 3.60 (4H,m), 3.47 (4H,m), 1.76-1.36 (8H,m), 1.24-1.09 (3H,m), 0.98-0.83 (2H,m).

Example 5

N-[2-(Benzylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide

(i) N-(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide

The sub-title compound was prepared from aminoacetonitrile hydrochloride by the method of example 1 step (i).

MS: APCI(+ve) 204 (M-Boc+1)

(ii) N-(Cyanomethyl)-N-(2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-phenylalaninamide

The sub-title compound was prepared from the product of step (i) (3.5g) by the method of example 1 steps (ii) and (iii). Yield 1.11g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 300 (M+1)

(iii) N-[2-(Benzylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide

The title compound was prepared from the product from step (ii) (0.2g) and benzylamine (0.37ml) by the method of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.11g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 387 (M+1)

NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.60 (1H,brs), 7.61 (1H,d), 7.29-7.14 (10H,m), 6.93 (1H,brs), 5.78 (1H,d), 4.64 (1H,brs), 4.47-4.33 (2H,m), 4.05 (2H,brs), 3.03 (1H,dd), 2.85 (1H,m).

Example 6

N-[2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl]-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide

The title compound was prepared from the product of example 5 step (ii) (0.2g) and N-benzylmethylamine by the method of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.18g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 401 (M+1)

NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.69 (1H,brs), 7.71 (1H,d), 7.33-7.15 (10H,m), 5.84 (1H,d), 4.75 (2H,q), 4.62 (1H,brs), 4.03 (2H,brs), 2.99 (1H,dd), 2.94 (3H,s), 2.86 (1H,m).

Example 7

N-[2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl]-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide

The title compound was prepared from the product of example 5 step (ii) (0.2g) and 4(4-chlorophenyl)piperazine by the method of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.18g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 476 (M+1)

NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.77 (1H,t), 7.72 (1H,d), 7.40 (1H,brs), 7.31-7.17 (7H,m), 6.98 (2H,d), 5.86 (1H,d), 4.54 (1H,brs), 4.13 (2H,m), 3.74 (4H,m), 3.12 (4H,m), 3.01 (1H,dd), 2.89 (1H,m).

Example 8

N~2~-[2-(Benzylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N~1~-{(cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide}

(i) **N-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-N-(cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide**

The sub-title compound was prepared from N-butoxycarbonyl-beta-cyclohexyl-L-alanine (5.0g) and aminoacetonitrile hydrochloride (1.71g) by the method of example 1 step (i). Yield 4.09g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 210 (M-Boc+H)

(ii) **N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-N~2~-{(2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-alaninamide}**

The sub-title compound was prepared from the product of step (i) (4.09g) by the method of example 1 steps (ii) and (iii). Yield 1.00g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 306 (M+1)

(iii) **N~2~-[2-(Benzylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N~1~-cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide**

The title compound was prepared from the product of step (ii) (0.2g) by the method of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.05g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 393 (M+1)

NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.48 (1H,brs), 7.64 (1H,d), 7.31-7.24 (4H,m), 7.17 (1H,m), 7.09 (1H,brs), 6.93 (1H,brs), 5.81 (1H,d), 4.47-4.36 (3H,m), 4.04 (2H,d), 1.75-1.47 (7H,m), 1.31 (1H,m), 1.19-1.09 (3H,m), 0.86 (2H,m).

Example 9

N~2~-{2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~-cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide

The title compound was prepared from the product of example 8 step (ii) (0.2g) and N-benzylmethylamine (0.43ml) by the method of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.13g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 407 (M+1)

NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.57 (1H,brs), 7.73 (1H,d), 7.31-7.27 (2H,m), 7.23-7.19 (4H,m), 5.85 (1H,d), 4.80 (2H,m), 4.42 (1H,brs), 4.02 (2H,m), 2.95 (3H,s), 1.69-1.44 (7H,m), 1.35 (1H,m), 1.24-1.07 (3H,m), 0.92-0.81 (2H,m).

Example 10

N~2~-{2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~-cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide

The title compound was prepared from the product of example 8 step (ii) (0.2g) and 4(4-chlorophenyl)piperazine (0.66g) by the method of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.2g.

MS: APCI(+ve) 482 (M+1)

NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.66 (1H,t), 7.75 (1H,d), 7.25 (3H,d), 6.98 (2H,d), 5.89 (1H,d), 4.35 (1H,brs), 4.12 (2H,d), 3.75 (4H,m), 3.13 (4H,m), 1.73-1.46 (7H,m), 1.37 (1H,m), 1.24-1.07 (3H,m), 0.97-0.87 (2H,m).

Example 11

N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{4-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-2-yl)-L-leucinamide}

(i) N~2~-{(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-N~1~-{(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide}

The sub-title compound was prepared according to the procedure of example 1 step (i) with amino acetonitrile hydrochloride (2.22g) and N-tert-butoxy S-leucine (5g).

MS: APCI(+ve) 270(M+1)

**(ii) N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{4-fluoropyrimidin-2-yl)-L-leucinamide and
N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide}**

The sub-title compounds were prepared from the product of step (i) (4.3g) according to the procedure of example 1 steps (ii) and (iii).

N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{4-fluoropyrimidin-2-yl)-L-leucinamide}

Yield 0.38g

MS: APCI(+ve) 266(M+1)

N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide}

Yield 3.8g

MS: APCI(+ve) 266(M+1)

(iii) N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{4-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-2-yl)-L-leucinamide}

The title compound was prepared according to the procedure of example 1 step (iv) using N~1~-{(cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{4-fluoropyrimidin-2-yl)-L-leucinamide. Yield 0.2g

MS: APCI(+ve) 333(M+1)

1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.49-8.46 (1H, t), 7.83-7.81 (1H, d), 6.63 (1H, bm), 6.06-6.04

(1H, d), 4.25-4.05 (3H, m), 3.63-3.47 (8H, m), 1.75-1.39 (3H, m), 0.90-0.84 (6H, m).

Example 12

N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide}

The title compound was prepared from N~1~-{(cyanomethyl)-N~2~-[(2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide (example 11 step (iii)) according to the procedure of example 1 step (iv). Yield 0.17g

5 MS: APCI(+ve) 333(M+1)
1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.64-8.60 (1H, t), 7.74-7.72 (1H, d), 7.24-7.23 (1H, d), 5.89-5.82 (1H, d), 4.31-4.08 (3H, m), 3.58 (8H, m), 1.72-1.39 (3H, m), 0.92-0.84 (6H, m).

10 Examples 13-34 were prepared according to the procedures of example 1 step (iv)
10 using N~1~-{(cyanomethyl)-N~2~-[(2-fluoropyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide
(example 11 step (iii)) and the appropriate amine.

Example 13

15 N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-[(2-(4-hydroxy-4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 423(M+1)
1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.65-8.61 (1H, t), 7.73-7.14 (7H, m), 5.84-5.82 (1H, d), 5.00-4.39 (4H, m), 4.08-4.03 (2H, m), 3.20-3.12 (2H, m), 1.90-1.35 (7H, m), 0.92-0.85 (6H, m).

Example 14

N~1~-{(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-[(2-[methyl(pyridin-3-yl)methyl]amino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

25 MS: APCI(+ve) 368(M+1)
1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.59-7.20 (7H, m), 5.89-5.87 (1H, d), 4.68 & 4.37 (3H, m), 4.08-4.02 (2H, m), 2.99 (3H, s), 1.68-1.35 (3H, m), 0.93-0.80 (6H, m).

Example 15

N~2~-[(2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl)-N~1~-{(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide

30 MS: APCI(+ve) 367(M+1)
35 1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 8.57-8.54 (1H, t), 7.74 (1H, d), 7.31-7.18 (6H, m), 5.87-5.85 (1H, d), 4.82-4.00 (5H, m), 2.95 (3H, s), 1.71-1.40 (3H, m), 0.89-0.81 (6H, m).

Example 16

N~2~-{2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide, trifluoroacetate salt

5

MS: APCI(+ve) 442(M+1)

1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 9.02-9.01 (2H, m), 7.75-6.98 (5H, m), 6.24-6.22 (1H, d), 4.48-4.13 (3H, m), 3.82-3.55 (8H, m), 1.66-1.50 (3H, m), 0.95-0.88 (6H, m).

10

Example 17

N~2~-{2-[4-(5-Chloropyridin-2-yl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide, bis trifluoroacetate salt

15

MS: APCI(+ve) 443(M+1)

1H NMR: δ (DMSO) 9.03-9.01 (2H, m), 8.15-6.90 (4H, m), 6.25-6.23 (1H, d), 4.49 (1H, m), 4.23-4.18 (2H, d), 3.80-3.66 (8H, m), 1.66-1.51 (3H, m), 0.95-0.88 (6H, m).

20

Example 18

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{2-[methyl(thien-3-ylmethyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 373(M+1)

25

Example 19

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{(2-thiomorpholin-4-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 349(M+1)

30

Example 20

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{2-(4-phenylpiperazin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 408(M+1)

35

Example 21

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[2-(hydroxymethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 361(M+1)

5

Example 22

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[(2R)-2-(hydroxymethyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

10 MS: APCI(+ve) 347(M+1)

Example 23

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

15

MS: APCI(+ve) 347(M+1)

Example 24

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[4-(2-furoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

20

MS: APCI(+ve) 426(M+1)

Example 25

N~2~~{2-[3-(Aminocarbonyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 374(M+1)

30

Example 26

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[methyl(2-pyridin-2-ylethyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 382(M+1)

35

Example 27

N~2~-[2-(4-Benzylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N~1--(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 421(M+1)

5

Example 28

N~1--(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-[2-(4-pyridin-2-ylpiperazin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

10 MS: APCI(+ve) 409(M+1)

Example 29

N~1--(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-[2-(4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

15 MS: APCI(+ve) 407(M+1)

Example 30

20 **N~1--(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-{2-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide**

MS: APCI(+ve) 375(M+1)

Example 31

25 **N~2~-{2-[4-(3-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1--(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide**

MS: APCI(+ve) 442/4(M+1)

30 **Example 32**

N~1--(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~-[2-(4-phenoxy)piperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 423(M+1)

35

Example 33

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(3-phenylpyrrolidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

MS: APCI(+ve) 393(M+1)

5

Example 34

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~(2-{methyl[(3-methylisoxazol-5-yl)methyl]amino}pyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide

10 MS: APCI(+ve) 372(M+1)

15

20

Measurement of Cathepsin S activity.

QFRET Technology (Quenched Fluorescent Resonance Energy Transfer) was used to
25 measure the inhibition by test compounds of Cathepsin S-mediated cleavage of the synthetic peptide Z-Val-Val-Arg-AMC. Compounds were screened at five concentrations in duplicate and the pIC₅₀ values reported.

Synthetic substrate, 20 μM [final]Z-Val-Val-Arg-AMC in phosphate buffer were added to
30 a 96 well black Optiplate. The assay plates were pre-read for compound auto fluorescence on SpectraMax Gemini at 355nM excitation and 460nM emission. 250pM [final] rHuman Cathepsin S in phosphate buffer was added and incubated for 2h at room temperature on the SpectraMax Gemini, taking readings every 20min at 355nM excitation and 460nM emission.

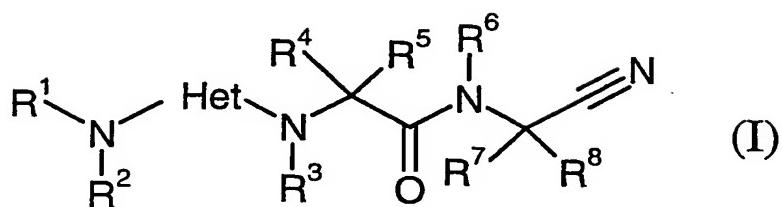
35

Activity Based template (5PTB-8) used the auto fluorescent corrected data to calculate the percentage inhibition for each compound concentration using the relevant plate controls. This data was used to construct inhibition curves and pIC_{50} estimated by non-linear regression using a 4 parameter logistic model.

CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):

5



R^1 is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

10

R^2 is independently aryl, heteroaryl or a group C₁₋₆alkylR⁹, CO(C₁₋₆alkyl)R⁹ or SO₂(C₁₋₆alkyl)R⁹;

15

or R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 4 to 7-membered saturated ring optionally containing a carbonyl group, O, S or N atom and optionally substituted by one or more C₁₋₆ alkyl, amino, hydroxy, CO₂C₁₋₆ alkyl, COC₁₋₆ alkyl, halogen, C₁₋₆ alkylhydroxy, NR¹⁰R¹¹ where R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered saturated ring optionally containing a further O, S or NR¹ group, C₁₋₆ alkylNR¹²R¹³ where R¹² and R¹³ are independently hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl, CONR¹²R¹³, or optionally substituted by C₁₋₆alkylR⁹, aryl, phenoxy, COaryl, COheteroaryl or a heteroaryl group, the latter six groups being optionally substituted by halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, carboxy, CONR¹²R¹³, SO₂NR¹²R¹³, SO₂R¹², trifluoromethyl, NHSO₂R¹², NHCOR¹², ethylenedioxy, methylenedioxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl NR¹⁰R¹¹, SR¹² or NR¹⁰R¹¹;

20

25

30

Het is a heteroaryl ring chosen from pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, pyridazine or triazine and optionally substituted by halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, carboxy, CONR¹²R¹³, SO₂NR¹²R¹³, SO₂R¹², trifluoromethyl, NHSO₂R¹², NHCOR¹², C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, SR¹² or NR¹⁰R¹¹;

R³ is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

R⁴ is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl, arylC₁₋₅alkyl or heteroarylC₁₋₅alkyl, the latter three groups being optionally substituted by one or more halogen, amino, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, SR¹² or NR¹⁰R¹¹;

R⁵ is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

R⁶ is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

R⁷ is independently hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is independently hydrogen, aryl, heteroaryl or C₁₋₆ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more aryl, heteroaryl, halogen, amino, hydroxy, carboxy, CONR¹²R¹³, SO₂NR¹²R¹³, SO₂R¹², NHSO₂R¹², NHCOR¹², C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, SR¹² or NR¹⁰R¹¹;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 in which R¹ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl and R² is CH₂R⁹ or CH₂CH₂R⁹ where R⁹ is phenyl or a 5- or 6-membered aromatic ring containing one or two heteroatoms and optionally substituted by C₁₋₆alkyl

3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2 in which R¹ and R² form a piperidine, piperazine, pyrrolidine, morpholine, or thiomorpholine ring optionally substituted by CH₂OH, CH₂CH₂OH, hydroxy, CONH₂, phenyl, phenoxy, C(O)-furyl, the latter three groups being optionally substituted by halogen, in particular chloro

4. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3 in which R³ is hydrogen.

5. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4 in which R⁴ is hydrogen.

6. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 in which R⁵ is hydrogen or phenyl optionally substituted by C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₁₋₆ alkoxy.

7. A compound of formula (I) selected from:

- N~1~~[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N~2~~(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N~2~~(2-piperazin-1-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide,
5 N-[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-N-(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-phenylalaninamide
N~1~~[Cyano(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-3-cyclohexyl-N~2~~(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-alaninamide
N-[2-(Benzylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide
10 N-{2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide
N-{2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N-(cyanomethyl)-L-phenylalaninamide
N~2~~[2-(Benzylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide
15 N~2~~{2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide
N~2~~{2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-3-cyclohexyl-L-alaninamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~(4-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-2-yl)-L-leucinamide
20 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~(2-morpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-hydroxy-4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[methyl(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
25 N~2~~{2-[Benzyl(methyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide
N~2~~{2-[4-(4-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide,
N~2~~{2-[4-(5-Chloropyridin-2-yl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide,
30 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[methyl(thien-3-ylmethyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~(2-thiomorpholin-4-ylpyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-phenylpiperazin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[2-(hydroxymethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide
35

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[(2R)-2-(hydroxymethyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

5 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[4-(2-furoyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-N~2~~{2-[3-(Aminocarbonyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[methyl(2-pyridin-2-ylethyl)amino]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-leucinamide

10 N~2~~[2-(4-Benzylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-pyridin-2-yl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide
N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~{2-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-L-

15 leucinamide
N~2~~{2-[4-(3-Chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl}-N~1~~(cyanomethyl)-L-leucinamide

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(4-phenoxy)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

20 N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~[2-(3-phenylpyrrolidin-1-yl)pyrimidin-4-yl]-L-leucinamide

N~1~~(Cyanomethyl)-N~2~~(2-{methyl[(3-methylisoxazol-5-yl)methyl]amino}pyrimidin-4-yl)-L-leucinamide

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

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8. A compound of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7 for use in therapy.

9. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of the formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

30 10. A method for producing inhibition of a cysteine protease in a mammal, such as man, in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound of the present invention as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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11. A method for treating pain, such as neuropathic pain, in a mammal, such as man, in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound as defined in any one of claims 1 to 7, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

1

International application No. PCT/SE 2003/001931

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: C07D 239/42, C07D 401/04, C07D 413/04, A61K 31/506, A61P 19/10
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: C07D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 0168645 A2 (AXYS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.), 20 Sept 2001 (20.09.2001), see the claims --	1-11
X	WO 02069901 A2 (MERCK FROSST CANADA & CO.), 12 Sept 2002 (12.09.2002), see the claims -----	1-11

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"X"	document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"Y"	document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"&"	document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search 24 February 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 25 -02- 2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Swedish Patent Office Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. + 46 8 666 02 86	Authorized officer CARLOLINA GÓMEZ LAGERLÖF/BS Telephone No. + 46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

24/12/2003

International application No.
PCT/SE 2003/001931

WO	0168645	A2	20/09/2001	AU	4576401 A	24/09/2001
WO	02069901	A2	12/09/2002	CA EP	2439415 A 1372655 A	12/09/2002 02/01/2004

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORTInternational application No.
PCT SE 2003/001931**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: **10-11**
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
see extra sheet
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT SE 2003/001931

Box II.1

Claims 10-11 relate to methods of treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or by therapy/diagnostic methods practised on the human or animal body/Rule 39.1.(iv). Nevertheless, a search has been executed for these claims. The search has been based on the alleged effects of the compounds/compositions.